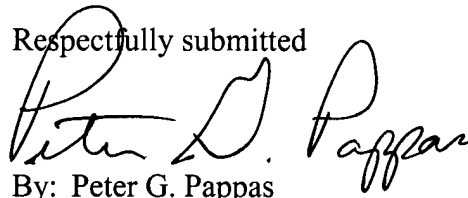


## REMARKS

After the foregoing preliminary amendment, the application includes claims 1-6. Claims 1-6 have been amended to delete reference numerals. Applicants respectfully claim the benefit of the filing date of German Patent Application 10321097.0, filed in the German Patent Office on May 9, 2003, under 35 U.S.C. §119 for the above referenced U.S. patent application.

If there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (404) 853-8064.

Respectfully submitted



By: Peter G. Pappas  
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Dated: July 18, 2003

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